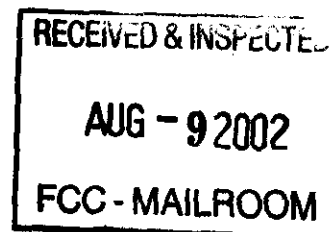




DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL
Capitol Valley Regional Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways
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July 19, 2002

Ms. Magalle Roman Salas, Secretary
Federal Communication Commission
Office of the Secretary
TW-B204, 445 12th Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Docket No. 01-108

Dear Ms. Salas:

The Capitol Valley Regional Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways (SAFE) is charged with the responsibility to install, operate, and maintain motorist-aid call boxes along freeways and state routes in the counties of El Dorado, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba. We operate over 1,400 call boxes and 400,000 call-box users have received motorist-aid services since we initiated operations in 1994.

We understand that AT&T Wireless, which provides analog cellular service to the majority of California SAFEs, including ours, has requested in the above-referenced Docket that the FCC eliminate the current requirement to maintain analog service. Since we were notified of this request after the official public comment period had ended, this letter is being sent to you as an "ex parte" document. Our cost to have analog transceivers replaced with digital transceivers could easily exceed \$1,000,000, with no improvement in the extent or quality of the voice communications that are the basis for our motorist aid services. As a medium-sized SAFE program, this cost would be particularly burdensome, and could result in the need to remove some call boxes as a cost-cutting measure.

We hope that the transition from analog to digital cellular availability will be conducted in a manner that allows public service agencies like ours to continue providing cost-effective service to the public. In that regard, we are willing to work with AT&T Wireless and other cellular service providers to develop cooperative plans to mitigate the otherwise unnecessary cost of that transition. We urge the FCC, through its decision on this Docket Item, to require AT&T Wireless and other cellular service providers to work with SAFEs to reduce the costs of converting from analog to digital service.

Should your staff have any questions on this matter, please contact Dave Boyer at 916-733-3227.

Sincerely,

MARTIN TUTTLE
Executive Director

No. of Copies rec'd 0
List ABCDE

cc: The Honorable Diane Feinstein
The Honorable Barbara Boxer
Linda Change, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, FCC
Blaze Scinto, Deputy Division Chief, Policy Division, FCC
D'Wana Perry, Private Wireless & Public Safety Division, FCC